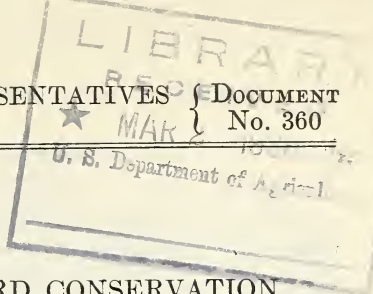


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REPORT OF MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

TRANSMITTING

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 3 OF THE  
ACT OF CONGRESS APPROVED FEBRUARY 18, 1929 (45 STAT. 1222;  
U. S. CODE, SUPPL., CH. 7A), THE REPORT OF THE MIGRATORY  
BIRD CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
ENDED JUNE 30, 1935

MARCH 16, 1936.—Referred to the Committee on Agriculture and ordered to  
be printed

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
*Washington, March 14, 1936.*

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SIR: In accordance with the provisions of section 3 of the act of  
Congress approved February 18, 1929 (45 Stat. 1222; U. S. C., supp.,  
ch. 7a), I present herewith report of the Migratory Bird Conservation  
Commission for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1935.

Respectfully,

H. A. WALLACE,  
*Secretary of Agriculture,*  
*Chairman, Migratory Bird Conservation Commission.*

REPORT OF THE MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR  
THE FISCAL YEAR 1935

Since funds were not made available for the purchase of lands under the provisions of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act (45 Stat. 1222; U. S. Code, supp., ch. 7a), no progress was made in the extension of migratory bird refuges under that act during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1935. That act provided for a 10-year refuge-acquisition program, beginning July 1, 1929, and authorized annual appropriations aggregating \$7,875,000 for the 10-year period. For the 6 years that have elapsed, the total amount actually appropriated is \$1,148,473.

The report made for the fiscal year 1934 contained a capitulation of the refuge-acquisition accomplishments, which has not changed during the past year. Twenty-three refuges have in whole or in part been acquired, 9 of these by purchase and 14 through reservations by Executive order. The area purchased now totals 122,594 acres, and the other lands reserved total 952,858 acres, making a grand total of 1,075,452 acres for bird-refuge purposes. Under the provisions of the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act (48 Stat. 451), however, \$635,344 has been made available to further the purposes of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act. Of this amount \$436,810 has been allotted for administration, development, and improvement of bird refuges. The balance, \$198,534, has been expended for the enforcement and administration of this act. None has been used for land acquisitions.

## STATUS OF PROGRAM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1935

While, as above stated, the refuge acquisition program under the Migratory Bird Conservation Act remained at a standstill, the work previously accomplished in the way of investigations has proved invaluable in the prosecution of land acquisitions for refuge purposes with funds made available by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration and from several other sources. The trained personnel of the Biological Survey was utilized in the appraisal and negotiations for the acquisition of lands, and the engineering section was effectively employed in making boundary surveys and in suitably monumenting and posting the lands thus taken.

Of the 38 refuges, containing 847,337 acres, acquired or in process of acquisition with emergency funds up to the close of the fiscal year, on 20, containing approximately 620,000 acres, previous examinations had been made in detail and cover type maps prepared, land valuation studies had been made of the many types of land embraced by each, and land-valuation data had been completed and ownership records compiled. Thus, immediately after emergency funds became available, the Biological Survey acted in a methodical way and with conspicuous success to effect the early consummation of many purchase transactions. As a result, approximately 1,500 parcels of land were acquired or are now in the process of acquisition.

## STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES

No funds were made available for the expenses of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission during the fiscal year. Under the Migratory Bird Conservation Act, \$65,948 was appropriated. Of this, \$28,214 was expended for employment and travel expenses of personnel engaged in supervisory work and in the direction of the larger activities growing out of land acquisitions with emergency appropriations. Title examination and other legal work, topographic and cadastral surveys, and map-compilation costs were paid for out of this sum. An amount of \$32,118 was expended as follows: \$18,051 for administration of refuges, \$5,738 for investigation of food resources, \$8,329 for wildlife diseases, and the balance, \$5,616, was contributed to the savings program inaugurated by the Bureau of the Budget.

HENRY A. WALLACE,  
*Secretary of Agriculture (chairman),*  
DANIEL C. ROPER,  
*Secretary of Commerce,*  
HAROLD ICKES,  
*Secretary of the Interior,*  
KEY PITTMAN,  
*Senator from Nevada,*  
PETER NORBECK,  
*Senator from South Dakota,*  
SAM D. McREYNOLDS,  
*Representative from Tennessee,*  
CHESTER C. BOLTON,  
*Representative from Ohio,*  
RUDOLPH DIEFFENBACH,  
*Bureau of Biological Survey (secretary),*  
*Migratory Bird Conservation Commission.*



